

**U.S. District Court  
District of Columbia (Washington, DC)  
CIVIL DOCKET FOR CASE #: 1:19-cv-01647-BAH**

LEOPOLD et al v. U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE et al  
Assigned to: Chief Judge Beryl A. Howell  
Cause: 05:552 Freedom of Information Act

Date Filed: 06/05/2019  
Jury Demand: None  
Nature of Suit: 895 Freedom of Information Act  
Jurisdiction: U.S. Government Defendant

**Plaintiff**

**JASON LEOPOLD**

represented by **Merrick Jason Wayne**  
LOEVY & LOEVY  
311 N. Aberdeen Street  
Third Floor  
Chicago, IL 60607  
(312) 243-5900  
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Email: [merrick@loevy.com](mailto:merrick@loevy.com)  
**ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED**

**Matthew Topic**  
LOEVY & LOEVY  
311 N. Aberdeen Street  
Third Floor  
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Fax: (312) 243-5902  
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**ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED**

**Plaintiff**

**BUZZFEED INC.**

represented by **Merrick Jason Wayne**  
(See above for address)  
**ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED**

**Matthew Topic**  
(See above for address)  
**ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED**

V.

**Defendant**

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

represented by **Jonathan D. Kossak**  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
Federal Programs Branch  
1100 L Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20005  
(202) 305-0612  
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**LEAD ATTORNEY**  
**ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED**

**Defendant**

**DOJ OFFICE OF ATTORNEY  
GENERAL**

represented by **Jonathan D. Kossak**  
(See above for address)  
**LEAD ATTORNEY**  
**ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED**

**Defendant**

**DOJ DEPUTY ATTORNEY  
GENERAL**

represented by **Jonathan D. Kossak**  
(See above for address)  
*LEAD ATTORNEY*  
*ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED*

**Defendant**

**DOJ OFFICE OF SPECIAL  
COUNSEL**

represented by **Jonathan D. Kossak**  
(See above for address)  
*LEAD ATTORNEY*  
*ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED*

**Defendant**

**FEDERAL BUREAU OF  
INVESTIGATION**

represented by **Jonathan D. Kossak**  
(See above for address)  
*LEAD ATTORNEY*  
*ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED*

**Defendant**

**DOJ NATIONAL SECURITY  
DIVISION**

represented by **Jonathan D. Kossak**  
(See above for address)  
*LEAD ATTORNEY*  
*ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED*

**Defendant**

**DOJ OFFICE OF LEGAL POLICY**

represented by **Jonathan D. Kossak**  
(See above for address)  
*LEAD ATTORNEY*  
*ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED*

**Defendant**

**DOJ OFFICE OF THE ASSOCIATE  
ATTORNEY GENERAL**

represented by **Jonathan D. Kossak**  
(See above for address)  
*LEAD ATTORNEY*  
*ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED*

**Defendant**

**DOJ OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

represented by **Jonathan D. Kossak**  
(See above for address)  
*LEAD ATTORNEY*  
*ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED*

**Defendant**

**DOJ CRIMINAL DIVISION**

represented by **Jonathan D. Kossak**  
(See above for address)  
*LEAD ATTORNEY*  
*ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED*

**Defendant**

**DOJ OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE  
AFFAIRS**

represented by **Jonathan D. Kossak**  
(See above for address)  
*LEAD ATTORNEY*  
*ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED*

**Defendant**

**NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY**

represented by **Jonathan D. Kossak**  
(See above for address)  
*LEAD ATTORNEY*  
*ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED*

Date Filed	#	Docket Text
06/05/2019	<u>1</u>	COMPLAINT against All Defendants ( Filing fee \$ 400 receipt number 0090-6167232) filed by BUZZFEED INC., JASON LEOPOLD. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Civil Cover Sheet Civil Cover Sheet, # <u>2</u> Summons Summons)(Topic, Matthew) (Entered: 06/05/2019)
06/05/2019	<u>2</u>	NOTICE of Appearance by Matthew Topic on behalf of BUZZFEED INC., JASON LEOPOLD (Topic, Matthew) (Entered: 06/05/2019)
06/05/2019	<u>3</u>	LCvR 26.1 CERTIFICATE OF DISCLOSURE of Corporate Affiliations and Financial Interests by BUZZFEED INC. (Topic, Matthew) (Entered: 06/05/2019)
06/06/2019		Case Assigned to Chief Judge Beryl A. Howell. (zef, ) (Entered: 06/06/2019)
06/06/2019	<u>4</u>	SUMMONS (13) Issued Electronically as to DOJ CRIMINAL DIVISION, DOJ DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL, DOJ NATIONAL SECURITY DIVISION, DOJ OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL, DOJ OFFICE OF LEGAL POLICY, DOJ OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS, DOJ OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS, DOJ OFFICE OF SPECIAL COUNSEL, DOJ OFFICE OF THE ASSOCIATE ATTORNEY GENERAL, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE and U.S. Attorney. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Notice and Consent)(zef, ) (Entered: 06/06/2019)
06/07/2019	<u>5</u>	STANDING ORDER. Signed by Chief Judge Beryl A. Howell on June 7, 2019. (lcbah3) (Entered: 06/07/2019)
07/08/2019	<u>6</u>	RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed. DOJ CRIMINAL DIVISION served on 6/18/2019 (Topic, Matthew) (Entered: 07/08/2019)
07/08/2019	<u>7</u>	RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed. DOJ DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL served on 6/18/2019 (Topic, Matthew) (Entered: 07/08/2019)
07/08/2019	<u>8</u>	RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed. DOJ NATIONAL SECURITY DIVISION served on 6/18/2019 (Topic, Matthew) (Entered: 07/08/2019)
07/08/2019	<u>9</u>	RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed. DOJ OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL served on 6/18/2019 (Topic, Matthew) (Entered: 07/08/2019)
07/08/2019	<u>10</u>	RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed. DOJ OFFICE OF THE ASSOCIATE ATTORNEY GENERAL served on 6/18/2019 (Topic, Matthew) (Entered: 07/08/2019)
07/08/2019	<u>11</u>	RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed. DOJ OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS served on 6/18/2019 (Topic, Matthew) (Entered: 07/08/2019)
07/08/2019	<u>12</u>	RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed. DOJ OFFICE OF LEGAL POLICY served on 6/18/2019 (Topic, Matthew) (Entered: 07/08/2019)
07/08/2019	<u>13</u>	RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed. DOJ OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS served on 6/21/2019 (Topic, Matthew) (Entered: 07/08/2019)
07/08/2019	<u>14</u>	RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed. DOJ OFFICE OF SPECIAL COUNSEL served on 6/18/2019 (Topic, Matthew) (Entered: 07/08/2019)
07/08/2019	<u>15</u>	RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed. FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION served on 6/24/2019 (Topic, Matthew) (Entered: 07/08/2019)
07/08/2019	<u>16</u>	RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed. NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY served on 6/19/2019 (Topic, Matthew) (Entered: 07/08/2019)

07/08/2019	<u>17</u>	RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed. U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE served on 6/18/2019 (Topic, Matthew) (Entered: 07/08/2019)
07/08/2019	<u>18</u>	RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed as to the United States Attorney. Date of Service Upon United States Attorney on 6/18/2019. Answer due for ALL FEDERAL DEFENDANTS by 7/18/2019. (Topic, Matthew) (Entered: 07/08/2019)
07/08/2019	<u>19</u>	RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed on United States Attorney General. Date of Service Upon United States Attorney General 6/18/2019. (Topic, Matthew) (Entered: 07/08/2019)
07/12/2019	<u>20</u>	Unopposed MOTION for Extension of Time to <i>Answer or Otherwise Respond to the Complaint</i> by DOJ CRIMINAL DIVISION, DOJ DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL, DOJ NATIONAL SECURITY DIVISION, DOJ OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL, DOJ OFFICE OF LEGAL POLICY, DOJ OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS, DOJ OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS, DOJ OFFICE OF SPECIAL COUNSEL, DOJ OFFICE OF THE ASSOCIATE ATTORNEY GENERAL, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Kossak, Jonathan) (Entered: 07/12/2019)
07/15/2019		MINUTE ORDER (paperless) GRANTING the defendants' <u>20</u> Unopposed Motion for Extension of Time to Answer or Otherwise Respond to the Complaint. Accordingly, by August 19, 2019, the defendants shall answer or otherwise respond to the plaintiffs' <u>1</u> Complaint. Signed by Chief Judge Beryl A. Howell on July 15, 2019. (lcbah3) (Entered: 07/15/2019)
07/15/2019		Set/Reset Deadlines: Answer to the Complaint due by 8/19/2019. (tg) (Entered: 07/15/2019)
08/06/2019	<u>21</u>	NOTICE of Appearance by Merrick Jason Wayne on behalf of BUZZFEED INC., JASON LEOPOLD (Wayne, Merrick) (Entered: 08/06/2019)
08/19/2019	<u>22</u>	ANSWER to Complaint by DOJ CRIMINAL DIVISION, DOJ DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL, DOJ NATIONAL SECURITY DIVISION, DOJ OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL, DOJ OFFICE OF LEGAL POLICY, DOJ OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS, DOJ OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS, DOJ OFFICE OF SPECIAL COUNSEL, DOJ OFFICE OF THE ASSOCIATE ATTORNEY GENERAL, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Exhibit A, # <u>2</u> Exhibit B, # <u>3</u> Exhibit C, # <u>4</u> Exhibit D, # <u>5</u> Exhibit E, # <u>6</u> Exhibit F, # <u>7</u> Exhibit G, # <u>8</u> Exhibit H, # <u>9</u> Exhibit I)(Kossak, Jonathan) (Entered: 08/19/2019)
09/24/2019		MINUTE ORDER (paperless) DIRECTING the plaintiff TO SHOW CAUSE, by October 8, 2019, why this action should not be dismissed for failure to prosecute pursuant to Local Civil Rule 83.23. The parties should have filed a joint meet and confer statement within 30 days of the defendants' <u>22</u> Answer, as required by the <u>5</u> Standing Order. Failure to comply with this order will result in this action being dismissed for failure to prosecute. Signed by Chief Judge Beryl A. Howell on September 24, 2019. (lcbah3) (Entered: 09/24/2019)
09/25/2019		Set/Reset Deadlines: Plaintiff's response to show cause due by 10/8/2019. (tg) (Entered: 09/25/2019)
10/08/2019	<u>23</u>	RESPONSE TO ORDER OF THE COURT re Order,, <i>Plaintiffs' Response to Order to Show Cause</i> filed by BUZZFEED INC., JASON LEOPOLD. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Exhibit Joint Status Report, # <u>2</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Topic, Matthew) (Entered: 10/08/2019)
10/09/2019		MINUTE ORDER (paperless) DISCHARGING the Court's September 24, 2019 Minute Order To Show Cause in light of the plaintiff's <u>23</u> Response to Order of the Court, and DIRECTING the parties to file, by December 20, 2019, a joint status report with proposed schedules for the production of responsive records and the filing of any dispositive motions. Signed by Chief Judge Beryl A. Howell on October 9, 2019. (lcbah3) (Entered: 10/09/2019)

10/10/2019		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 12/20/2019. (tg) (Entered: 10/10/2019)
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